

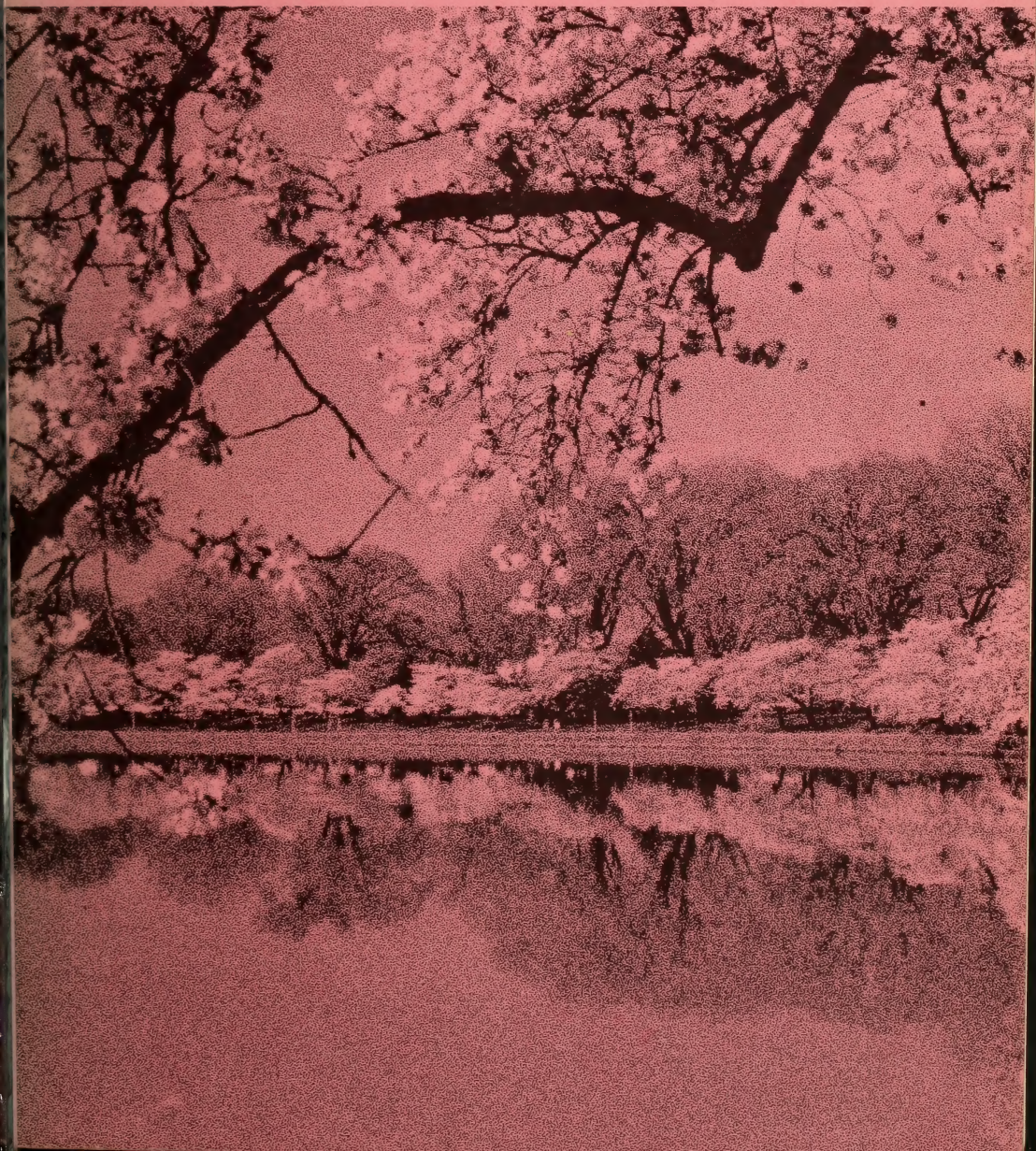
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National Arboretum Contribution No. 4

U.S. Department of Agriculture

# **The Japanese Flowering Cherry Trees of Washington, D.C.**

*A Living Symbol of Friendship*











Cherry trees lining waterway in Japan in 1902. Photograph shown to Mrs. Taft by Spencer Cosby.



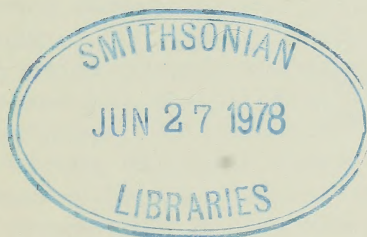
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# **The Japanese Flowering Cherry Trees of Washington, D.C.**

*A Living Symbol of Friendship*

By Roland M. Jefferson, U.S. National Arboretum  
and  
Alan E. Fusonie, National Agricultural Library

National Arboretum Contribution No. 4



**Agricultural Research Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

Washington, D.C.

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## FOREWORD

The Japanese flowering cherries of Washington, D.C., are world famous, and the general facts of their Japanese origins are well known to most people. However, the intimate details as to how the trees came to Washington have often been confused or reported on incompletely.

This publication, by Roland M. Jefferson and Alan E. Fusonie, clarifies the story of the introduction of the Japanese flowering cherries and describes the drama associated with their development.

Without question, David Fairchild, champion of Federal plant exploration and introduction, was instrumental in bringing the flowering cherries to Washington. His early attraction to these remarkable trees in Japan and vision as to their role in the beautification of American cities has been borne out of the use of flowering cherries wherever they are suitable. While we may never understand the religious and philosophical significance of the Japanese flowering cherries, we can enjoy their grace and spring beauty equally as well as the annual cherry viewers in Japan.

Hopefully, our flowering cherries will be with us for centuries, and it is fitting that their history be documented while the details are still available to us. This publication is intended to record this historical and scientific undertaking for the benefit of both visitors to Washington and the scientific community and to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the U.S. National Arboretum.

John L. Creech, Director  
U.S. National Arboretum



## PREFACE

This publication provides a historical narrative documenting in detail the origin and history of the Japanese flowering cherry trees in Washington, D.C. In particular, it discusses their introduction and planting along the Tidal Basin in West Potomac Park. The publication in no way purports to be either a full-scale account of the evolution of the Japanese cherry trees or an indepth history of their proliferation throughout the United States.

From their original planting at the Nation's Capital emerges a multifaceted story. This story involves international diplomacy and protocol and the friendship of two great countries. In addition, it involves the personal involvement of high-ranking individuals within each of the respective countries, the expertise of dedicated scientists in Japan, as well as in the United States, and the Japanese cherry trees, themselves, whose flowering is an annual event of simple and delicate beauty. Bibliographic profiles of the major participants in the introduction of the Japanese flowering cherry trees to the United States are in the appendix.

The research involved in this publication is based primarily upon unpublished letters, memoranda, and other documentary material located at the National Archives and the Washington National Record Center, in Washington, D.C. Additional primary source materials, including personal papers, letters, and reports, were found in the William Howard Taft Papers at the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., and in the David Fairchild Papers at the Montgomery Library of the Fairchild Tropical Gardens, Miami, Fla. Other valuable sources concerning the Japanese cherry trees were included in the collections of the Martin Luther King Library, the Columbia Historical Society, and the U.S. National Arboretum, all in Washington, D.C., and the National Agricultural Library in Beltsville, Md. (A detailed listing of these materials is found in the section, Notes and Selected References, on pp. 30 to 35 of this publication.)

Many people contributed to this publication. The authors are especially indebted to the following individuals: Andrew Kuroda and Thaddeus Ohta of the Library of Congress; Dorothy Provine of the National Archives; Betty Culpepper of the Martin Luther King Library; Robert A. Truax of the Columbia Historical Society; John Popenoe of the Fairchild Tropical Gardens; Donna Jean Fusonie of the University of Maryland; Wayne D. Rasmussen of the Economic Research Service; Sharon Crutchfield of the National Agricultural Library; Lester Nichols of Pennsylvania State University; and John L. Creech, Theodore R. Dudley, Donald R. Egolf, Frederick G. Meyer, and Frank S. Santamour, all of the National Arboretum.

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# **The Japanese Flowering Cherry Trees of Washington, D.C.**

*A Living Symbol of Friendship*

## **THE JAPANESE FLOWERING CHERRY TREES - ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT**

In 1876, during the American Revolution Centennial Year, the area bordering the Potomac River, where the beautiful Japanese flowering cherry trees now stand, encompassed one of the least desirable locations in Washington, D.C. (fig. 1). This area was a dreary swamp not far from the White House where weeds flourished and mosquitoes bred, causing many health problems. Today, after major reclamation and horticultural development projects, this area, now named Potomac Park, is known throughout the world for its great beauty.

Although the reclamation of the Potomac River area is in itself an outstanding engineering accomplishment, Potomac Park is not widely known for this undertaking. The park is famous internationally for the beautiful Japanese flowering cherry trees that were a gift of friendship to this country from the people of Japan.

The story behind the donation and planting of these trees in the Nation's Capital is interesting, and one that has been told, in part, in numerous brief published accounts. Although several of these accounts partially explain how the planting of these cherry trees originated, the entire circumstances surrounding the origin of Washington's flowering cherry trees are historically important.

In Japan, the flowering cherry tree or "Sakura," as it is called by the Japanese people, is one of the most exalted of all flowering plants. The high regard in which it is held is reflected in all aspects of the culture, life, and literature of the Japanese people. As early as the 5th century, A.D., the Japanese Emperor and his Court paid homage to the Sakura.



Figure 1.—Potomac Park in the middle and late 19th century.

Through the ages, the Japanese have equated the brief transient beauty of the cherry blossom with that of the human life:

Yo no naka wa  
 Mikka minu ma ni  
 Sakura kana  
 [Life is short, like the three day  
 glory of the cherry blossom. (1)]<sup>1</sup>

By 1800, a collection of approximately 1,000 cherry trees containing nearly 80 different selections had been planted at Kyoto, Japan (2). At the end of the 19th century, the Sakura had become an integral part of Japanese culture with more than 130 recognized cultivated selections. Eliza Scidmore, an American writer traveling in Japan at the turn of the 20th century, wrote that "except Fuji-Yama and the moon, no other object has been theme and inspiration of so many millions of Japanese poems as the cherry blossom . . ." (3) (fig. 2).<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Italic numbers in parentheses refer to Notes and Selected References, p. 30-35.

<sup>2</sup>See Appendix, p. 36, for biographic information on E. R. Scidmore and other prominent individuals mentioned in this publication.





Figure 2.—Roadway in Japan in 1902 lined with flowering cherry trees.

## EARLY INTEREST IN THE JAPANESE FLOWERING CHERRY TREES IN THE UNITED STATES

In early 19th century America, the Japanese flowering cherry tree was known only by a few people in this country, and the general public had no opportunities to be aware of its beauty. Possibly, the earliest accounts of the plant being introduced into the United States are listed in the 1846 and 1847 catalogues for the Ellwanger and Barry Co., of Rochester, N.Y., and later in the 1852 nursery catalogue of Parsons and Co. of Flushing, Long Island, N.Y. An account also appeared in the March 1862 issue of "The Horticulturist and Journal of Rural Arts and Rural Taste" in which the proprietors of Parsons and Company reported that Dr. George Rogers Hall had brought from Japan "... fifteen new double flowering cherries, one of them described ... to be as large as a rose ..." (4).

The introduction of a wild species of Japanese cherry into the United States probably did not occur until 1876 when Dr. William S. Clark, first President of the Agricultural College, Sapporo, Japan, sent home seeds of *Prunus sargentii* Rehd., native to the mountains of northern Japan and southern Sakhalin (5). In general, however, from the time of the earliest settlers through the colonial, revolutionary, and early pre-Civil War periods, the introduction into America of new species of plants like the flowering cherry trees played a small but vital role in the horticultural

development of this new Nation. From the mid-1860's on, unlike the pre-Civil War years, outstanding advances were made in the introduction and distribution of new plants throughout the United States by such men as William Saunders, a former Superintendent of Gardens and Grounds for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (6).

In 1897 James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture—known to many as “Tama Jim”—brought a refreshing interest and direction to the Department's role in the area of plant introduction (fig. 3). Under his leadership, the Department began to hire additional specialists in the various areas of the agricultural sciences. Wilson intended to work towards the day when the United States would be agriculturally self-sufficient. Under his administration, seed distribution would become an important factor in efforts to achieve this goal. Plant explorers would be sent all over the world in search of new and hopefully useful kinds of seed plants (7).

Secretary Wilson wasted little time in setting in motion the necessary machinery to achieve his goals. In 1898, to further these objectives, he established the Office of Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction, headed by David Fairchild, a plant explorer. Fairchild subsequently contributed much to the introduction of the Japanese flowering cherry tree into the United States.

Before 1897, the Department's scientists were also naturally concerned with the large number of foreign insect pests and diseases and their potentially detrimental effects upon an expanding but, as yet, unmonitored system of plant introduction. Under Wilson's leadership, however, scientists Charles L. Marlatt and Leland O. Howard and staff assistants such as Flora W. Patterson were supported in their efforts to obtain a national plant quarantine law to control this threat to American agriculture. By 1906, the Department's Bureau of Plant Industry began to develop its own inspection process for plant materials imported by the Bureau. This process entailed not only fumigating but also destroying imported plants when necessary (8). The increasing interest in the introduction of Japanese cherry trees to the Washington, D.C., area would ultimately test the validity of the Department's inspection process.

In the early part of the 20th century, a few individuals in the Washington, D.C., area were actively engaged in promoting the introduction of the Japanese flowering cherry trees into this country. As early as 1903, through the efforts of David Fairchild and Barbour Lathrop, the Department's Office of Foreign Plant Introduction of the Bureau of Plant Industry was involved in introducing 30 named varieties of cherry trees into the United States (9). In addition, Fairchild on a trip to Japan in 1902 was so impressed with the picturesque beauty of the cherry trees lining the country's streets and waterways that he was determined to have these trees on property of his own someday. In time, he and his wife, Marian Bell, bought a lovely tract of forested land in Chevy Chase, Md.,



named "In the Woods" by Barbour Lathrop, where such trees could be grown.

On December 30, 1905, Fairchild ordered 75 flowering cherry trees and 25 single-flowered weeping-type trees from H. Suzuki, manager of the Yokohama Nursery Company in Japan, to plant on a hillside on his land. Suzuki was delighted to hear of the anticipated plantings in Maryland of Japan's "Royal Flower." He, in turn, contacted a friend who specialized in growing cherry trees, and on February 3, 1906, ordered his best stock for Fairchild (10).

The trees arrived in the United States in excellent condition between April 7 and May 16, 1906, and were planted on the Fairchild estate. Upon the recommendation of Professor Tamari of the Agricultural College in Komaba, Japan, Fairchild hired a young Japanese gardener, named Mari, to assist in the development of the cherry plantings (11).

In addition to the spacious grounds and nursery at In the Woods, the

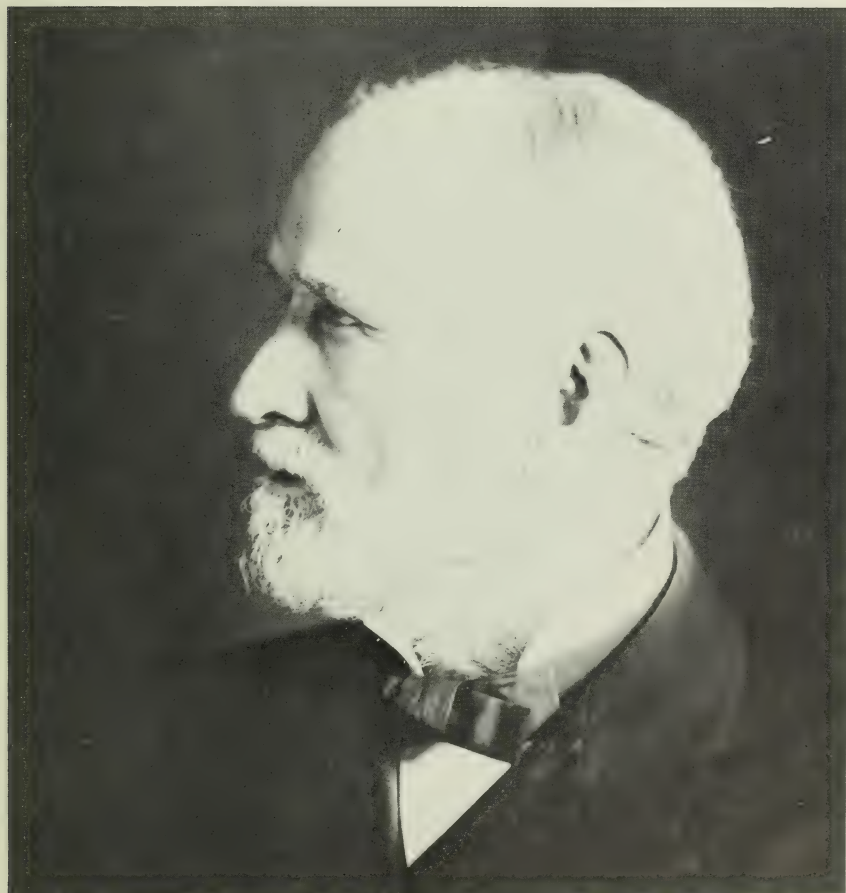


Figure 3.—James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture, 1897-1913.

Fairchilds also built a beautiful home, designed and furnished with a definite taste for Japanese simplicity (12) (fig. 4).

By the following year the Fairchilds were so pleased with the success of their recent experiment at In the Woods that they decided to promote Japanese flowering cherry trees as the ideal type of tree to plant along avenues in the Washington area. They showed some friends in Chevy Chase six photographs of such an avenue in Japan, which stimulated their interest. On September 26, 1907, arrangements were completed with the Chevy Chase Land Company to order 300 cherry trees for the Chevy Chase area. Provisions were made separately to have the holes dug and properly fertilized before the arrival of the shipment (13).

To further increase the popularity of the tree, the Fairchilds thought that possibly the Washington, D.C., public schools could assist by encouraging pupils to plant Japanese cherry trees on Arbor Day.

Fairchild contacted Susan B. Sipe, a dedicated teacher of "nature



Figure 4.—David and Marian Fairchild among the cherry blossoms at "In the Woods."  
(Courtesy of the Fairchild Tropical Gardens.)



study" and Supervisor of School Gardens in Washington, D.C., and tentative arrangements were made for a planting ceremony in the spring. Accordingly, a boy from each public school in the District would be chosen to visit In the Woods, where he would receive a Japanese flowering cherry tree to plant in his schoolyard (14). Fairchild then ordered an additional 150 flowering trees for this project. His order stipulated the urgency that the plants arrive for the Arbor Day observance on March 27, 1908 (15).

By mid-March 1908, arrangements for the Arbor Day project had been completed, and Miss Sipe and the schoolboys were preparing for the tree planting. For the coming ceremony, each boy was provided with at least a yard of twine and about two square feet of rough cloth wrap for the young trees (16). On the day before Arbor Day, Eliza Scidmore, who was also interested in the beautification of the Washington area, discussed with Fairchild the possibility of promoting the planting of Japanese cherry trees along the newly constructed "Speedway" (now called West Potomac Park). Enthusiastic about this common area of interest, Fairchild explained to Miss Scidmore the school program that was planned for the Arbor Day celebration. He invited her to attend his closing illustrated lecture the following afternoon at the Franklin School in Washington, D.C.

On the morning of Arbor Day, Miss Sipe and 83 schoolboys arrived at Fairchild's home for the cherry trees (fig. 5). As the Franklin School, where Fairchild was to give his Arbor Day lecture, did not have a schoolyard, Miss Sipe had obtained special permission from Colonel Charles Brownell, in charge of Public Buildings and Grounds for Washington, D.C., to plant a tree in Franklin Park, directly across the street from this school.

Although the participants did not realize it at the time, the Franklin Park tree planting was historically significant, for as the program ended, Fairchild for the first time publicly expressed an appeal that the Speedway should be transformed into a "Field of Cherries." With these words, he was also voicing the opinion of his distinguished guest, Eliza Scidmore, whom afterwards he referred to as a great authority on Japan (17).

The tree planting by Washington schoolchildren was timely, for, at the White House, Mrs. William Howard Taft was interested in similar beautification efforts. With the assistance of Colonel Spencer Cosby, the newly appointed Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds, Mrs. Taft had been working on a plan for developing Potomac Park. The details were being drawn up by George E. Burnap, a landscape architect under Colonel Cosby. This plan soon began to emerge, encouraged by both Fairchild and Eliza Scidmore.

In a letter dated April 4, 1909, written by David Fairchild to Cosby, Fairchild offered to take the necessary steps to import, as a gift, Japanese cherry trees similar to those that they had arranged to be planted in the



Figure 5.—Schoolboys on Arbor Day at "In the Woods": *Top*, Entering the grounds; *bottom*, receiving instructions in planting and caring for the cherry trees. (Courtesy of the Fairchild Tropical Gardens.)



Chevy Chase area. Fairchild accompanied this letter with illustrative colorful photographs of cherry trees lining one of the typical scenic waterways in Japan. He pointed out to Cosby that he was in agreement with those expert Japanese gardeners who viewed the Speedway area as an ideal location for the planting of cherry trees (18).

On April 7, 1909, Mrs. Taft discussed with George H. Brown, a landscape gardener under Cosby, her ideas for beautifying the Speedway. Brown, then, submitted Mrs. Taft's ideas and Fairchild's offer to order the cherry trees to Cosby. Five days later Cosby initiated the purchase of 90 double-flowering Japanese cherry trees (*Prunus serrulata* cv. Fugenzo) from Hoopes Brothers and Thomas Co., West Chester, Pa., for \$106 (19).

It was not long after the trees arrived that interest in Japanese cherry trees gained momentum in the Washington, D.C., area. By early June, Washington's newspapers carried stories of a possible donation of cherry trees by the Mayor of Tokyo to Mrs. Taft. Certainly, this development must have greatly pleased Fairchild who, along with others, "... was in part instrumental in bringing this [turn of events] about" (20). These plans to beautify Potomac Park now generated a sincere interest at the diplomatic levels of Government in both Japan and the United States. On July 12, 1909, Secretary of State Philander Knox, in conversations with Kogoro Takahira, the Japanese Ambassador to the United States, discussed the potential importance of this project.

## **THE FIRST GIFT OF JAPANESE FLOWERING CHERRY TREES TO THE NATION'S CAPITAL**

It was not until August 30, 1909, however, that the Japanese Charge d'Affaires ad Interim, Keishiro Matsui, of the Japanese Embassy in Washington, D.C., in a letter to Alvey Adee, Acting Secretary of State, officially informed the Department of State that the City of Tokyo intended to donate 2,000 cherry trees to the United States:

... the news that planting of Japanese cherry trees along the Potomac Drive of the City of Washington is contemplated having reached Japan, the City of Tokyo, prompted by a desire to show its friendly sentiments towards its sister Capital City of the United States, has decided to offer as a gift two thousand young trees raised in Japan (21).

The Department of State viewed this offer as a warm gesture of continuing friendship between Japan and the United States (22).

Two thousand flowering cherry trees were selected from 10 of the better selections around Tokyo for shipment to Washington, D.C. Yukio Ozaki, the Mayor of Tokyo, no doubt, saw this event as an opportunity to play a personal role in Japanese-American relations (23). On October 29, 1909, Mayor Ozaki authorized T. Watase, his commissioner and alderman then on travel in the United States, to remain ready to act as a representative agent in any subsequent transfer arrangements concerning the cherry trees

(24). Two weeks later, on November 12, Spencer Cosby informed James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture, that a shipment of 2,000 cherry trees was to arrive in Seattle on December 10 from Yokohama, Japan, on board the steamship *Kaga Maru*. He also welcomed the Secretary's cooperation in expediting the shipment to its destination in Washington, D.C. (25).

On November 13, Secretary Wilson notified W. D. Benson, special agent, Bureau of Plant Industry Office in Seattle, of the incoming shipment of cherry trees. At the same time, he explained to Cosby the importance of the Department thoroughly inspecting this shipment upon its arrival in Washington "... in order to ascertain whether they [2,000 cherry trees] are free from insect pests new to this country or from other possible diseases" (26). Noting the lack of both quarantine and inspection laws in the District of Columbia, Wilson stressed the need for cooperation between the Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds and the Department (27).

On November 24, Secretary of Agriculture, James Wilson, informed the Secretary of State, Philander Knox, of the arrangements that were being made to handle the inspection of the 2,000 cherry trees upon their arrival in Washington (28) (fig. 6). Spencer Cosby in the meantime was keeping in touch with President and Mrs. Taft. He and George Burnap began work on a tentative diagram plan for replacing the recently planted elms with the cherry trees along the new Potomac Drive (29) (fig. 7). Any surplus cherry trees would be planted in various parts of the city as an enduring reminder of the friendship between the two countries (30).

Time passed quickly during the next month for those involved in making the necessary arrangements. On December 10, the much-awaited shipment of Japanese flowering cherry trees arrived in Seattle. The cherry trees were given a preliminary inspection there, after which they were transferred to temperature-controlled railroad cars for shipment to Washington, D.C. (31). The train left Seattle on December 24 and arrived in Washington on January 6. The trees, then, were immediately transported to the Department of Agriculture's Garden Storehouse on the Monument Grounds to be examined by a team of top Department scientists (fig. 8).

On January 8, 1910, David Fairchild found that the trees were quite large and their roots severely pruned, thereby making them imminent potentials for high losses. Fairchild recommended to Colonel Cosby that the tops of the trees also be severely pruned as a possible solution to saving the trees (32). On January 10, Cosby informed Mrs. Taft of these developments (33).

On January 19, C. L. Marlatt of the Department's inspection team sent his report to Secretary Wilson, noting among other things the serious infestations of insect pests such as the Chinese Diaspid (*Diaspis pentagona*), the San Jose scale (*Quadraspidiotus perniciosus*), and the wood-boring lepidopterus larvae. He recommended that the trees be burned immediately. Marlatt stated in his report that this shipment of trees was



the worse infestation by insects and root galls that he had ever encountered. He also stated that he believed younger stock would have arrived healthier (34). Neither the Japanese nor the American officials anticipated this unfortunate and potentially embarrassing situation. Yet, it clearly showed the need for an effective monitoring system of plant introduction into this country.



Figure 6.—Philander C. Knox, Secretary of State, 1909-1913.

The Department's inspection team included scientists from the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Industry. They were to examine the trees and prepare individual reports. These scientists who were experts in their fields were the following:





and a reference to the need for direct cooperation by scientists of both Governments concerning possible future shipments of Japanese flowering cherry trees (37).

On January 26, Colonel Cosby wrote to Mayor Ozaki of this regrettable situation and attached a copy of Secretary Wilson's final report (38).



Figure 8.—First shipment of flowering cherry trees at the U.S. Propagating Gardens on January 6, 1910: *top*, Unloading the trees; *bottom*, storing the trees.



Figure 9.—Albert F. Woods, Acting Chief, Bureau of Plant Industry, in 1910.

The next day, Philander Knox, Secretary of State, in an official communique to Count Yasuya Uchida, the Japanese Ambassador to the United States, expressed the sentiments of President and Mrs. Taft over this unfortunate event. Knox explained the position of the United States in his letter as follows:



. . . the United States has suffered immense damage to its trees and its agriculture generally by various injurious insects not indigenous but introduced from foreign countries, and . . . the introduction of any new kind might result in the future in the enormous detriment to fruit growers and agriculturists of the country. From this point of view, the Department of Agriculture seems to have no choice but the painful duty of ordering the destruction of the trees (39).

Knox also provided Ambassador Uchida with three copies of Secretary Wilson's final report. On January 28, after receiving the consent of President Taft, Colonel Cosby ordered the trees burned, along with the bamboo canes and wrappings used in packing the trees for shipment (40). Charles Henlock, chief gardener, executed the burning (fig. 13).



Figure 10.—David G. Fairchild, plant explorer and author.



Figure 11.—Flora W. Patterson, one of the scientists who inspected the first shipment of Japanese cherry trees. (Courtesy, *Mycologia*, vol. 21.)

## **THE SECOND GIFT OF JAPANESE FLOWERING CHERRY TREES TO THE NATION'S CAPITAL**

Mayor Ozaki heard of the need to destroy the trees while visiting the Nation's Capital (fig. 14). At that time, he reportedly suggested that the City of Tokyo take the necessary steps to ensure the safe and healthy shipment of another consignment of trees. By December 1910, stories were circulating in the press about plans that were already underway between

the State Department and the Japanese Government to replace the shipment destroyed (41). Professor S. I. Kuwana, director, Imperial Quarantine Service, approached the city officials in Tokyo and proposed that he and his two colleagues—Professor Y. Kumagaya, horticulturist of the Imperial Horticultural Station of Okitsu and Professor M. Miyoshi of the Imperial University of Tokyo—be designated as a committee unit of the Okitsu Imperial Horticultural Experiment Station to select and propagate selections of Japanese flowering cherry trees for shipment to America. His proposal was well received and these experts, together with S. Funazu, a local individual experienced in flowering cherries, selected scions from 12 selections early in December 1910 from the Ekita-mura (village of Ekita) area along the banks of the Arakawa River.

These scions were carefully fumigated with hydrocyanic acid gas and placed in cold storage; in February 1911 they were grafted to specially selected understock. The following December, after the young trees dropped their leaves, they were taken from the ground, fumigated a second time, and prepared to ship to America (42).

By the end of January 1912, 6,000 Japanese cherry trees were ready for shipment to the United States on the Japanese steamship *Awa-Maru*. Half of these were designated for Washington, D.C., from the people of Tokyo, and the rest, for New York City, a gift from the Japanese Society of Tokyo (43). Professor Yoshinao Kozai, director, Nishigahara, Agricultural Experiment Station, Tokyo, wrote to L. O. Howard, on January 29. He explained in great detail the precautionary care with which this shipment of cherry trees had been prepared.



Figure 12.—Department of Agriculture scientists inspecting first shipment of Japanese cherry trees, January 7, 1910.





Figure 13.—First shipment of Japanese cherry trees being prepared for burning (*top*) and being burned (*bottom*).

Excerpts from his letter follow:

- (1) Trees were raised at the Horticultural Division of our Experiment Station under my direction;
- (2) The field where the trees were raised consisted practically of a virgin sod, tertiary clay in nature and free from nematode infection;
- (3) The stock and scions were procured from a particular place free of disease and scale infection . . . separately fumigated . . . sprayed with fungicides and insecticides;
- (4) The trees were again treated with hydrocyanic acid gas and then carefully selected before packing. The roots of each plant are covered with damp moss and placed in wooden boxes.
- (5) Callus is frequently found on some trees. This is because young trees were injured by the supporting sticks during severe storms in summer (44).

Given these precautions and special care, expectations ran high among Tokyo officials for a shipment of "Trees . . . reasonably . . . free from the defects of their predecessor" (45).

On February 26, 1912, Yei Theodora Ozaki, Mayor Ozaki's wife, in a cordial letter to Mrs. Taft, fittingly characterized the second shipment of cherry trees as a " . . . memorial of national friendship between the U.S. and Japan" (46).

By mid-March, arrangements were completed for transporting the new shipment of cherry trees across the country after their arrival in Seattle (47). The 3,000 cherry trees arrived safely in Washington, D.C., on March 26 and were delivered to the Propagation Gardens. The Department's scientists immediately prepared to inspect the trees (48). While the inspection process was still in progress, Secretary Wilson informed Col. Cosby that,



Figure 14.—Mayor and Mrs. Yukio Ozaki of Tokyo, Japan, taken in 1910 around the time of the destruction of the first shipment of Japanese cherry trees.

“So far as the inspection has gone, the trees seem singularly free from injurious insects or plant diseases” (49).

The next day, Mrs. Taft participated in a simple yet official planting ceremony in West Potomac Park. The Japanese Ambassador, Count Suteomi Chinda, and his wife, Viscountess Chinda, Eliza Scidmore, and Col. Cosby were present at this ceremony. Mrs. Taft planted the first cherry tree in an area located several hundred yards to the west of the statue of John Paul Jones. Mrs. Taft then invited Viscountess Chinda to plant the second tree (50) (figs. 15-18).

A few days later, on April 4, Col. Cosby wrote Yukio Ozaki, Mayor of Tokyo, that the second shipment had received a “minute and careful examination” (51) by Department scientists and that “[e]very tree was passed by the experts” (52). Most of the trees were planted as planned around the Tidal Basin and along the Riverside Drive in East and West Potomac Park (53). The rest reportedly were planted on the White House grounds, in Rock Creek Park, and in a small nursery area located near the corner of 17th and B Streets (54). In particular, 18 of the greenish-yellow flowered *Prunus serrulata* Lindl. cv. Gyoiko were planted on the White House grounds (55).



Figure 15.—First Lady, Mrs. William H. Taft, in 1908.





Figure 16.—Count Sutemi Chinda and wife, Viscountess Iwa Chinda.

The successful planting of the second shipment of Japanese flowering cherry trees in the Nation's Capital marked the beginning of a living symbol of friendship between the peoples of Japan and the United States. Four years later, 99 percent of the trees planted around the Tidal Basin were well established, 8 to 12 feet tall, and blooming each spring (56).

The Department of Agriculture continued to maintain controls over the imports on nursery stock, seeds, and other plant material under the strict regulations of Quarantine 37, which was first announced on November 18, 1918, by Secretary F. Houston (57). It was apparent that, in the coming years, some replacement stock for the Potomac and Tidal Basin areas would have to be drawn from selected nurseries within this country. At the same time, the Department continued to take an active interest in the welfare and future propagation of the cherry trees originally planted around the Tidal Basin and in Potomac Park (fig. 19).



Figure 17.—Eliza Scidmore, American writer who traveled in Japan. (Courtesy, Washingtoniana Division, D.C. Public Library.)

In 1924, Wilson Popenoe, then acting agricultural explorer in charge of the Bureau of Plant Industry, obtained permission from the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds for Paul Russell, an outstanding botanist with the Bureau, to examine the original plantings and, if possible, take some cuttings for herbarium purposes and for propagation in the Bureau's Plant Introduction Garden located in Bell, Md. (58). He hoped that these efforts by the Department and aided by commercial nurseries in this country would ensure the permanent value of this gift by the Japanese people (fig. 20).

## CONCLUSION

The first commemoration of the original planting of Japanese cherry trees in 1912 occurred in 1927 when Washington school children re-enacted the event. A second commemoration took place in 1934 when the District of Columbia's Board of Commissioners sponsored a 3-day celebration. In 1935, a "Cherry Blossom Festival" was jointly sponsored by many civic groups.



Figure 18.—Colonel Spencer Cosby, Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds for the Washington, D.C., area.





Figure 19.—Mayor Ozaki and daughters among the cherry trees in Potomac Park, 1923.  
(Courtesy of the Fairchild Tropical Gardens.)

As time passed, each spring brought forth the rebirth of the beautiful cherry blossoms along the Tidal Basin and in East Potomac Park (figs. 21 and 22). This annual event became a newsworthy occurrence of international significance, a reaffirmation of the bonds of friendship between Japan and the United States. In 1949, the Cherry Blossom Festival included the selection of princesses from all 48 States and the Territories, with a final choice of a festival queen.

In 1954, Sadao Iguchi, the Japanese Ambassador to the United States, presented an ancient 20-ton ceremonial Japanese stone lantern to Washington. The lantern was thought to have once stood near the Kan'eiji (Temple) in Ueno Park, Tokyo. This particular ceremony also marked the 100th anniversary of the first treaty between the United States and Japan signed by Commodore Matthew Perry on March 31, 1854 (59),—a momentous diplomatic event which heralded a new era in the history of the United States and Japan (fig. 23).

The 1957 Cherry Blossom Festival was especially highlighted by the donation of the Mikimoto Pearl Crown to use annually to crown the festival queen. The crown, valued at approximately \$100,000, was made by the same skillful handcraftsmen who made the crown tiara and other similarly jeweled ornaments for the Imperial Household in Japan (60). In 1965, the Japanese Government made another gift of 3,800 Japanese cherry trees—American grown—to the City of Washington, 700 of which



Figure 20.—Selected groups of cherry trees on the Tidal Basin: *A*, In 1921 and *B* and *C*, 1925.





Figure 20.—Selected groups of cherry trees on the Tidal Basin—Continued: *D*, a specimen offchiyo selection in 1929; *E*, a grouping of Takinioi selection in 1930; and *F*, closeup of blossoms of Somei-Yoshino selection in 1921.





Figure 21.—Japanese visitors on the Tidal Basin among the cherry trees in 1938.



Figure 22.—The Jefferson Memorial at cherry blossom time around the mid-1940's.



Figure 23.—Japanese stone lantern: *Left*, Tatsuko Iguchi, daughter of Japan's Ambassador to the United States, lights candle—Friendship's Flame—during opening of 1954 Cherry Blossom Festival; *right*, inscription on the lantern "A pair of stone lanterns dedicated in memory of Daiyuin (Iemitsu Tokugawa: Third Shogun (1604-51)), placed in front of mausoleum at Toeizan (Kan'eiji Temple) in Bushu (now Ueno Park in Tokyo) on this 20th day of the 11th month of the 4th year of Keian (that is, January 1, 1952) by Shigenobu Matsuura, Lord of Hirado, in Hizen Province. (Translated from Japanese by the Library of Congress. Photograph of Japanese stone lantern from the *Washington Star*.)

were for planting on the Washington Monument Grounds. This ceremony was especially symbolic of the 1912 planting, with Mrs. Lyndon Johnson, the First Lady, and Mrs. Ryuji Takeuchi, wife of the Japanese Ambassador to the United States, planting two trees in the Tidal Basin area (61) (fig. 24).

The cherry trees originally planted around the Tidal Basin in 1912 are now dying of old age. Only about 28 percent of the trees originally planted are living (62). The National Arboretum, as part of the Department of Agriculture's continued interest in these trees, is in the process of preserving the clonal lines for a few of them. Specifically, today, the Arboretum is making grafted propagations from the two cherry trees planted by Mrs. William Howard Taft and Viscountess Iwa Chinda. Perhaps someday these young trees will be used to replace their dying counterparts for the continuing beauty of the area (fig. 25).





Figure 24.—Cherry trees planted in 1965 by Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, wife of President Johnson, and Mrs. Ryuji Takeuchi, wife of Ambassador Takeuchi.



Figure 25.—Cherry trees, as they appear in 1976, planted in 1912 by Mrs. William Taft (*left foreground*) and Viscountess Chinda (*right foreground*).



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## **APPENDIX**

### **Biographical Profiles of Major Participants in the Introduction of the Japanese Flowering Cherry Trees**

#### **Alvey A. Adee (1842-1924)**

While serving as Acting Secretary of State in 1909, Mr. Adee was notified by Keishiro Matsui, Charge d'Affaires ad Interim of the Japanese Embassy, that the City of Tokyo, through Mayor Ozaki, had decided to present to the City of Washington 2,000 Japanese cherry trees.

Mr. Adee was born in Astoria, N.Y., and although records of his earlier school years are lacking, it is known that he did receive an honorary M.A. degree from Yale University.

In 1867, during his State Department career, he served as private secretary to the U.S. Minister of Spain in Madrid. From 1870 to 1877, he was Secretary of the Legation at Madrid and in 1882, he was appointed by President Arthur to the post of Third Assistant Secretary of State. President Cleveland, in 1886, promoted him to the post of Second Assistant Secretary of State, a position which he held for 30 years until his retirement in 1917.

In addition to serving as Acting Secretary of State when the first cherry tree shipment was received from Japan, he also served in this capacity at other significant historical times. Some of these included the Chinese Boxer Rebellion in 1900, the Russo-Japanese War and the peace negotiations in 1905, and the Central American Peace Conference in 1907 at which he was an active participant.

Mr. Adee died in Washington, D.C.

#### **George E. Burnap (1886-1938)**

As landscape architect of Public Buildings and Grounds, Burnap worked under the supervision of Colonel Spencer Cosby at the time the cherry trees were brought to Washington. He designed the plans that were submitted to Mrs. William H. Taft for the planting of the Japanese cherry trees around the Tidal Basin.

Born in Hopkinton, Mass., Mr. Burnap graduated in 1906 from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and, in 1910, from Cornell University. He was a member of the Societe des Urbanistes Diplomes of Paris, the National Press Club, and both the Technology and the University Clubs

of New York. He published a reference work entitled, "Parks, Their Design, Equipment and Use" (Philadelphia; London: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1916).

After becoming principal landscape architect in the Office of Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds, Burnap designed plans for the development of several parks in Washington, D.C. They were Potomac Park, Meridian Hill Park, Montrose Park in Georgetown, and various parks along Pennsylvania and Maryland Avenues.

He died in Washington, D.C.

### **Viscountess Iwa Chinda** (1867-N.A.)

During the Japanese cherry tree planting ceremony held in Potomac Park on March 27, 1912, Mrs. William H. Taft planted the first tree and the Viscountess the second. After the trees were planted, Mrs. Taft presented the Viscountess with a dozen American Beauty roses.

Viscountess Chinda was born in the Province of Homari Ken and educated by tutors in the family home. As the wife of Count Sutemi Chinda, the Japanese Ambassador to the United States, she arrived in this country approximately one month before the first of the famous Japanese cherry trees was planted in the Tidal Basin area of Potomac Park.

### **Count Sutemi Chinda** (1865-1929)

Having presented his credentials to President William Howard Taft on February 27, 1912, Count Sutemi Chinda became the Japanese Ambassador to the United States, one month to the day before Mrs. Taft planted the first cherry tree in Potomac Park. Representing his government as the Japanese Ambassador, he attended the tree planting ceremony as a guest of Mrs. William Howard Taft.

Count Chinda was born in Hirosaki Aomori Prefecture. He attended Amherst and DePauw Universities in the United States as well as studying in Europe. He joined the diplomatic service in 1885 and served as Consul, Minister, and Ambassador to many countries including the United States, England, Germany, and Russia. After the end of the Russo-Japanese War, he served as Foreign Minister at the Portsmouth Conference (1905) in which President Theodore Roosevelt acted as mediator. He was one of the Japanese delegated to attend the Paris Peace Conference following World War I and later served the Japanese Emperor as a Grand Chamberlain on the Privy Council.

**Nathan Augustus Cobb**  
**(1859-1932)**

As nematologist with the Bureau of Entomology, United States Department of Agriculture, Dr. Cobb inspected the shipment of cherry trees for root gall worms in 1910.

Dr. Cobb was born in Spencer, Mass. After graduating from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1881, he taught at Williston Seminary, Easthampton, Mass., for 6 years. Following this, he studied in Europe at the University of Jena, Germany, and received his doctoral degree in 1888. In 1891, he was appointed pathologist in the Department of Agriculture in New South Wales, Australia. After other assignments and travel, he became an agricultural technologist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1907; later, he became one of its principal nematologists.

During his scientific career, he described approximately 1,000 new species of plants and animals and published many technical articles. Because of his several inventions that benefited the fiber industries of the world, he was awarded a medal by the National Cotton Manufacturers Association. Dr. Cobb belonged to many scientific societies, and, in his later years, was President of the Washington Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Cobb died in Baltimore, Md.

**Colonel Spencer Cosby, USA**  
**(1868-1962)**

While serving as President Taft's Military Aid and Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds for Washington, D.C., Colonel Cosby arranged with Mayor Ozaki and other Japanese and American officials to bring the cherry trees to Washington, and directed their planting.

Born in Baltimore, Md., Colonel Cosby attended West Point, graduating first in his class in 1891. He was a member of the volunteer service during the Spanish-American war and held the temporary rank of Major of Engineers. After being discharged from his war duties in 1901, he was promoted to the permanent rank of Captain of Engineers. During his military career, which covered approximately 41 years, he rose from the rank of 2d Lieutenant to Colonel. In addition to serving during the Taft Administration as Military Aide to the President and Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds under the War Department, Cosby was the Engineering Commissioner for the District of Columbia. From 1913 to 1917, he served as the U.S. Military Attaché to Paris, France. He retired from the Army in 1928 and later died in Washington, D.C.



**David G. Fairchild**  
(1869-1954)

Official records, personal papers, and published accounts indicate that David Fairchild was instrumental in the earlier planting of Japanese flowering cherry trees in the Washington, D.C., area.

David Fairchild was born in Lansing, Mich., on April 7, 1869. His father, George T. Fairchild, was then a professor of English literature at the Michigan Agricultural College. In 1879, his father became President of Kansas State College of Agriculture, and the family moved to Manhattan, Kans. In 1885, Fairchild entered Kansas State College. After graduating in 1888, he enrolled for a short time in the Universities of Iowa and Rutgers and, in 1889, was employed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C. He remained with the Department until 1933. Dr. Fairchild, a plant explorer and administrator with the Department, was responsible for establishing in the United States over 75,000 edible, ornamental, and economic crops, many of which are used today.

During his life, he received many honors. He was a lifetime trustee of the National Geographic Society and President of the American Genetic Association. The Fairchild Tropical Gardens at Miami, Fla., was named in his honor. In addition to these honors, he was a member of each of the following scientific societies: International Society of Botanists, The American Pomological Society for the Promotion of Agricultural Science, American Society of Naturalists, the Societe d'Horticulture Algerie, and the Societe d'Acclimation. Dr. Fairchild published many scientific articles and books. He described his travels in such works as "The World was My Garden," "Garden Islands of the Great East," "The World Grows Around My Door," and "Exploring for Plants."

Dr. Fairchild died in Coconut Grove, Fla.

**Masanao Hanihara**  
(1876-1934)

Mr. Hanihara was Secretary of the Japanese Embassy in Washington, D.C., when, in 1909, the Japanese sent the first gift of cherry trees to Mrs. Taft. As Secretary, he kept Colonel Cosby informed of the details that related to the trees coming to Washington, D.C.

After leaving his post as Secretary of the Japanese Embassy in 1911, Hanihara later served as the Japanese Consul General in San Francisco, Calif. He returned to Japan to become Director of the Bureau of Commerce of the Foreign Office; he then became Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs for his government. In 1922, he was appointed Ambassador to the United States and held that post until 1924.

He died in Tokyo, Japan.

**Charles Henlock**  
**(1856-1934)**

In 1912, Henlock, head gardener in the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds, supervised the actual planting of the cherry trees in Potomac Park.

He started work in 1886 as a laborer and was promoted to head gardener in 1901. Before retiring in 1931, Henlock became Chief of the Horticultural Division of the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital (predecessor to the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds).

After retiring, he served as a consultant to the National Capital Parks and Planning Commission of Washington, D.C.

Mr. Henlock died in Washington, D.C.

**Leland O. Howard**  
**(1861-1950)**

Dr. Howard, as Chief of the Bureau of Entomology of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, supervised inspection of both shipments of Japanese cherry trees in 1910 and 1912.

Dr. Howard graduated from Cornell University with B.S. and M.S. degrees. Because of his outstanding work in controlling insects, he later was awarded honorary doctoral degrees from Georgetown and George Washington Universities in Washington, D.C., and the University of Toronto in Canada. During his scientific career, he authored over 900 books and articles on insects. His many decorations from foreign governments included the Cross, Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur, and the Cross, Officier de l'Ordre de Merite Agricole, from France. He was a member of the National Academy of Science, the American Philosophical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and 16 other scientific societies. For 22 years, he served as permanent secretary for the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Howard died in Bronxville, N.Y.

**Philander Chase Knox**  
**(1853-1921)**

As Secretary of State, Mr. Knox on November 22, 1909, informed both the Secretaries of War and Agriculture that the shipment of cherry trees from Japan would arrive in Seattle, Wash., on December 10, 1909. On January 27, 1910, Knox, as Secretary of State, informed the Japanese Ambassador, Baron Uchida, that the trees must be destroyed because of the possibility of the spread of disease and insect pests.

Born in Brownsville, Pa., May 6, 1853, Knox graduated from Mount Union College, Ohio, in 1872. Later, he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1875. In 1901, President McKinley appointed him Attorney-General. He left the Justice Department in 1904 to serve as a Senator from Pennsylvania. In 1909, President Taft appointed Mr. Knox to the Office of Secretary of State, a responsibility he held until the Taft Administration ended in 1913. In 1917, he was again elected to the Senate from Pennsylvania.

He died in Washington, D.C., and is buried at Valley Forge, Pa.

### **Baron Rempei Kondo** **(1848-1921)**

Mr. Kondo was President of the steamship company that in 1909 transported the cherry trees from Japan to Seattle, Wash. These trees were shipped without charge to the United States because of Baron Kondo's efforts.

Born in Tokushima Prefecture, Japan, Rempei Kondo was a graduate of Daigaku Nanko (predecessor to Tokyo University). He rose from manager of the Nihon Yusen Kaisha (NYK Shipping Line) to president. Because of his contributions to military transportation during the Sino-Japanese and Russo-Japanese Wars, he was made a Baron in 1911 and became a member of the Japanese House of Peers. He attended the Versailles Peace Treaty Conference in 1919 as a delegate. He also directed a number of business enterprises in Japan.

### **Yoshinao Kozai** **(1864-1934)**

As Director of the Imperial Experiment Station, Nihigahara, Tokyo, Japan, Professor Kozai was responsible for seeing that the second gift of cherry trees sent to Washington, D.C., from Japan was free of diseases and insect pests.

Yoshinao Kozai was born in Kyoto Prefecture. After graduating from Komaba Agricultural College (now Faculty of Agriculture, Tokyo University) in 1887, he studied in Europe for several years. In 1899, he returned to Japan to accept a professorship at Tokyo University. Later, he became dean of the university's agricultural faculty and, ultimately, in 1920 president. After the university was destroyed by an earthquake in 1923, Kozai was foremost among those who worked to rebuild it.



**Henry B. F. Macfarland**  
(1861-1921)

Mr. Macfarland was President of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia during the time that Mayor Ozaki sent the shipment of cherry trees—which were later destroyed—to Washington, D.C., in 1909. At the suggestion of Colonel Spencer Cosby, he wrote a letter to Mayor Ozaki on behalf of the people of Washington thanking the authorities of the City of Tokyo for their gift of cherry trees.

Born in Philadelphia, Pa., he came to Washington, D.C., at an early age. In 1876, he graduated from Rittenhouse Academy after which he studied law on his own for several years, later attending lectures at Columbia University (now the George Washington University, Washington, D.C.). In 1900, he was appointed by President McKinley to the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia and, soon thereafter, he was elected President of the Board. He served in that capacity until 1910, returning to private law practice afterwards. In addition to his duties as Commissioner in 1900, he was chairman of the Citizens Committee for the National Capital Centennial. During World War I, he served as a member of the Committee of Labor for the National Council of Defense and was a major fund raiser for the American Red Cross.

He died in Washington, D.C.

**Charles Lester Marlatt**  
(1863-1954)

Mr. Marlatt was Acting Chief of the Bureau of Entomology, U.S. Department of Agriculture, when the first shipment of Japanese cherry trees was destroyed because of disease and insect problems. He prepared and submitted to the Secretary of Agriculture the combined findings of the entomologists who inspected these trees. A copy of his report was later forwarded to the Departments of State and War and then to the Japanese authorities.

Born in Atchison, Kans., to a father who was President of Kansas Agricultural College and a mother who also was an educator, Marlatt attended the school where his father presided, receiving a B.S. degree in 1884 and a M.S. in 1886. Upon graduating, he taught at Kansas Agricultural College for 2 years as an assistant professor. In 1889, he joined the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Entomology, as an assistant entomologist. In 1894 he was appointed Assistant Chief of the Bureau.

Because of his early efforts to restrict the entry into this country of insect pests, the Plant Quarantine Act was passed in 1912 and the Federal Horticultural Board was established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to carry out the intent of this Act. Marlatt was made Chairman of the Board, an assignment which he performed while still serving as Assis-

tant Chief of the Bureau of Entomology. In 1929, he relinquished his quarantine responsibilities to serve as Chief of the Bureau of Entomology. He published articles on insects and insect problems in many scientific journals, and helped develop methods for their control.

He died in Washington, D.C.

### **Baron Keishiro Matsui**

**(1868-1946)**

In 1909, Keishiro Matsui held the position of Charge d'Affaires for the Japanese Embassy in the United States. He was the first Japanese official to inform the State Department through correspondence that the City of Tokyo had decided to offer as a gift to the people of the United States 2,000 young trees (cherry) grown in Japan.

Baron Matsui was born in Osaka, Japan. He graduated from the Imperial University in Tokyo in 1889. In addition to his position in the United States, he was Counselor to the Paris Embassy in 1906 and became Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs for Japan in 1913 before taking the position of Japanese Foreign Minister in 1924. Later in his career, he was a representative on the Supreme Council of the League of Nations and an Ambassador to Great Britain. In 1938, he was made a member of the prestigious Japanese Privy Council.

He died in Japan.

### **Professor Manabu Miyoshi**

**(1861-1939)**

A Japanese botanist and authority on ornamental cherry trees, Dr. Miyoshi was one of three scientists who, in 1912, selected the second group of cherry trees to be sent to Washington, D.C.

Dr. Miyoshi was born in Tokyo, Japan. Upon graduating from Tokyo University in 1889, he studied botany in Germany. In 1895, he returned to Japan to become a Professor of Botany at Tokyo University. In 1921, he was elected to the Imperial Academy (a highly regarded Japanese scholarly organization) and authored more than 150 scientific books and papers. His 1,175-page work, *Die Japanischen Bergkirschen*, published in 1916, is still today one of the most important accounts on the Japanese flowering cherry trees.

### **Yukio Ozaki**

**(1858-1954)**

Of the many people responsible for the Potomac Park Japanese Flowering Cherry Tree Planting, none deserves more credit for this collection

than Yukio Ozaki. Mainly through his desire for a friendly relationship to exist between the American and Japanese people, he tenaciously labored to get these trees established in the Nation's Capital.

Yukio Ozaki, born in Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan, was a graduate of Keio Gijuku (predecessor to Keio University). After graduation, he became editor-in-chief of the Niigata Shimbun, a Japanese newspaper. He later served as Counselor of the Foreign Office in 1897 and was appointed Education Minister in 1898. After resigning as Education Minister, he was elected Mayor of Tokyo in 1904. As a founder of the Japanese Parliament in 1890, he was re-elected 25 consecutive times. An Ozaki Memorial Hall, erected in honor of Yukio Ozaki, now stands near the National Diet Building in Tokyo, Japan. In 1973, in a ceremony attended by Ryokichi Minobe, the Tokyo Governor, and Alan Carter, U.S. Minister Counselor in Japan, 150 dogwood trees were planted in memory of Ozaki as a symbol of the friendship between Japan and the United States. The dogwood trees were presented for the ceremony by the Japan-American Society of Washington, D.C.

### **Flora Wambough Patterson (1847-1928)**

As a mycologist (1896-1923) on the staff of the Bureau of Plant Industry, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Mrs. Patterson was one of the scientists who reported diseases in the first shipment of cherry trees sent from Japan in 1910.

Born in Columbus, Ohio, she graduated in 1865 from Antioch College with an A.B. degree and received an A.M. degree from Wesleyan College, Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1883. In 1895, she received another A.M. degree from the University of Iowa and studied botany and mycology at Radcliffe College from 1892 to 1895. While working as an assistant in the Gray Herbarium, in 1896 Mrs. Patterson was hired by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as an assistant pathologist. Later she was placed in charge of the Department's Mycological and Pathological Collections.

In addition to her work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, she was active in many scientific societies, including: The American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Botanical Society of America, National Geographic Society, Washington Botanical Society, Biological Society of Washington, American Phytopathological Society, and the American Association of University Women. She also published articles on fungi in many scientific journals and, in 1895, was an assistant editor of *Economic Fungi*.

She died in Brooklyn, N.Y.



**Eliza Rhuamah Scidmore**  
(1856-1928)

Having spent much time in Japan at the turn of this century, Miss Scidmore, along with David Fairchild, was among the first to suggest to Mrs. Taft to plant Japanese cherry trees along the Potomac River.

She was born in Madison, Wis., in 1856 and educated in boarding schools. After attending Oberlin College from 1873 to 1874, she served a newspaper apprenticeship in Washington, D.C., as a correspondent for the *New York Times* and the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*. After a newspaper career which carried her to Alaska, she spent several years in Japan, China, Java, the Philippines, and Europe. In 1910, because of her knowledge of the East, David Fairchild, then in charge of the U.S. Department of Agriculture plant explorers, recommended that she be appointed by the Department as a "dollar - a - year collaborator." In this capacity, while living in the Far East, she collected information on the plant industries of China and Japan.

In addition to her life in the Far East, she also was active in the National Geographic Society as one of its earliest members, serving as corresponding secretary, associate editor, foreign secretary, and as the first female member on the Board of Managers. She also was a secretary to the Oriental Congresses at Rome in 1897 and at Hamburg in 1902.

Miss Scidmore wrote many articles on the Japanese cherry trees that were published by magazines and newspapers. Her list of books includes: "Alaska: Its Southern Coast and the Sitkan Archipelago" (1885); "Westward to the Far East" (1890); "From East to West" (1890); "Appleton's Guidebook to Alaska and the Northwest Coast" (1893); "Java, the Garden of the East" (1897); "Winter India" (1903); and "As the Hague Ordains" (1907).

Miss Scidmore died in Geneva, Switzerland, and at the request of the Japanese government, her ashes were buried in Japan.

**Mrs William Howard (Helen Herron) Taft**  
(1861-1943)

As the wife of the President of the United States, Mrs. William H. Taft was very active in working to beautify what was considered in the early 20th century to be the undeveloped Potomac River area.

Mrs. Taft was born and educated in Cincinnati, Ohio, where she taught school for 2 years. She was a talented musician and served for many years as President of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. She first came to Washington, D.C., to live in 1891, when her husband was appointed Solicitor General of the United States, and again in 1904 when Mr. Taft became Secretary of War. She traveled with her husband to the Philippines, Japan, and other parts of the Orient and, while in Japan, devel-

oped an appreciation for the great beauty of the Japanese flowering cherry trees.

She died in Washington, D.C., and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

### **Baron Kogoro Takahira** **(1854-1926)**

Baron Takahira was the Japanese Ambassador to the United States during the planning stages for the first gift of Japanese cherry trees from Mayor Ozaki to be sent to Washington, D.C. Mainly through his staff, the many diplomatic details necessary to bring these trees to Washington were carried out.

Baron Kogoro Takahira was born in Iwate Prefecture, Japan. He was a member of the Ichinoseki Clan and was educated in the Clan School. He worked for the Japanese Education Ministry in 1873 and, in 1881, transferred to the Foreign Ministry. In the Foreign Ministry, he obtained the positions of Secretary of Legation in Korea and Consul-General in Shanghai. He was appointed Ambassador to Italy in 1908 and in 1909 he was transferred to the United States as Ambassador. In addition to these duties, he also was active in the Russo-Japanese Peace Conference in 1905.

### **Baron Yasuya Uchida** **(1865-1936)**

Yasuya Uchida became the Japanese Ambassador to the United States in 1909 after the details for sending for the gift of Japanese flowering cherry trees to this country were completed. Since these trees were ordered burned within a few weeks after coming to Washington, D.C., Ambassador Uchida was the Japanese official with whom the United States Government worked to help ease a very undesirable situation.

Ambassador Uchida, a member of Teh Kumamoto Clan, was born in Japan. Upon graduating from the Law Department of Tokyo University in 1887, he entered the Japanese Foreign Ministry and was briefly assigned to Washington, D.C., as an Attaché. Before being sent again to Washington, D.C., in the fall of 1909 as the Japanese Ambassador, he served his country as Secretary of Agriculture and Commerce. He became Secretary of the Legations at both London, England, and Peking, China, and later served as Minister to China and Austria. From 1909 to 1911, he was the Japanese Ambassador to the United States. In 1911, he was sent to Russia as the Japanese Ambassador and, in 1918, returned to Japan to become Foreign Minister. In 1921, he served as interim Prime Minister of

Japan. He was a Privy Counselor from 1925 to 1929 and, in 1931, became President of the South Manchuria Railway.

After retiring from public life late in 1931, he was again asked to serve his country for a short while as Foreign Minister, an offer which he accepted in 1932.

### **James Wilson** **(1835-1920)**

From 1897 to 1913, James Wilson served as Secretary of Agriculture in the Cabinet of several Presidents. Among his many duties during this period, which included the time when the two shipments of flowering cherry trees arrived from Japan, Secretary Wilson was responsible for protecting the agricultural crops within the United States from diseases and insect pests.

Born in Ayrshire, Scotland, Secretary Wilson came to America in 1851 and lived for 5 years in Connecticut. He then moved to Laura County, Iowa, where he attended secondary school before attending Iowa College, Grinnell, Iowa, for 2 years. From 1868 to 1873, he was a member of the Iowa House of Representatives and served as Speaker from 1872 through 1873. From 1873 to 1877 and from 1883 to 1885, he served in the U.S. Congress as one of the representatives from Iowa. He served on the Board of Regents for the University of Iowa, Coe College, at Cedar Rapids from 1870 to 1874. From 1885 to 1897, he served as a trustee for the college. From 1879 to 1883, he was a member of Iowa State Railway Commission. In 1891, he became Professor of Agriculture and Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Ames, Iowa. In 1913, he was awarded a LL.D. degree from Edinburgh University. From 1913 until his death he was active with the *Agricultural Digest*.

He died in Traer, Iowa.

### **Albert Frederick Woods** **(1866-1948)**

Dr. Woods was one of the supervisory scientists who reported some pests found in the first cherry tree shipment from Japan.

Dr. Woods was born on a farm near Belvedere, Ill., and, while still a young boy, moved with his family to a cattle ranch near the University of Nebraska. He later attended the University and received degrees of B.S. (1890), M.A. (1892), and Ph.D. in Agriculture (1912). In 1893, he was appointed to the U.S. Department of Agriculture as an Assistant Division Chief in the Division of Plant Pathology by President Cleveland. After attaining the job of Assistant Bureau Chief of the Bureau of Plant



Industry, he left the Department of Agriculture in 1910 to accept a position as the Dean of Agriculture and the Experiment Station at the University of Minnesota. In 1917, he became President of Maryland State College and, later, was appointed President of Maryland University.

During his lifetime he published over 300 technical articles, was associated with many scientific organizations, and was the recipient of several prestigious awards. He was a member of the National Research Council, the American Phytopathological Society, the Botanical Society of Washington, D.C., and a Fellow and Vice President of the First International Conference on Agriculture, Forestry, and Animal Husbandry. Dr. Woods also belonged to the Cosmos and University Clubs and several Greek letter societies. In addition, he was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Agriculture in 1913 from the University of Nebraska as well as other honorary doctorates in science and law from the University of Maryland and St. John's College, Annapolis, Md., respectively.

He died in Hyattsville, Md., on April 12, 1948.

# Letters and Reports by USDA Scientists Concerning the Need for the Destruction of the First Shipment of Japanese Flowering Cherry Trees

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY

Washington, January 19, 1910

Dear Dr. Howard:

I beg leave to submit the following report on the shipment of 2,000 flowering cherry trees from Japan, the inspection of which has been in progress for the past week. This inspection has been somewhat hastily done on account of the necessity of handling the trees rapidly so that they might be quickly heeled in to prevent any further drying of the roots, which were already in very poor condition.

(1) Practically 100 per cent of the trees were more or less seriously infested with scale insects. Enormous numbers of the Chinese Diaspis (Diaspis pentagona) were found on most of the trees; also a limited amount of San Jose scale (Aspidiotus perniciosus).

(2) Approximately 20% are visibly infested with the boring larvae, in all stages, of a Sesiid moth of somewhat similar habits to our peach borer (Sannioidea exitiosa). This undetermined species is apparently more dangerous than the common peach borer, since it attacks the trees not only near the surface of the ground, but frequently its work is evident at the base of the upper branches or in the stump of a pruned limb, or wherever there is an abrasion of the bark. The above percentage of visibly infested trees may constitute only a small percentage of those infested with the borer, since the infested trees can be discovered during a superficial examination only by the presence of frass and excrement of larvae in the more advanced stages or from matured insects which have emerged; so that the majority of the infested trees discovered may have been infested for a year or more. Some of the trees were completely girdled and in a dying condition.

These larvae in various stages are so deeply imbedded in the wood and so thoroughly protected by the gummy exudation of the wounded bark that no reasonable amount of fumigation would kill them.

(3) Other undetermined larvae of moth were found on the trees, along with cocoons of at least two species of bagworms. A living Pierid chrysalis, and a chrysalis of the Cochleiid, Cnidocampa flavescent Walk, (determined by Dr. Dyar) were found.

(4) An undetermined weevil similar in appearance to Pseudocneorhinus obesus (auct. H. Barber) was found.

(5) A Forficulid was also found, and determined by Mr. Caudell as Anisolabis annulipes.

(6) Several specimens of black thrips were occasionally seen hibernating under the loose bark.

(7) A large living egg mass of a canker-worm resembling our Paleacrita vernata was discovered.

(8) Several nests of a medium-sized shiny black ant (Cremastogaster sp) were discovered in cavities under the bark and in galleries of the borer.

In view of the fact that it would be utterly impossible to so fumigate these trees as to kill the borer and perhaps the pupae of other insects present, and the extreme danger of these insects hatching out and gaining a firm foothold in this country, I would, at least from an entomological standpoint, recommend that the entire shipment be burned as soon as possible.

In this inspection I acknowledge the assistance of Messrs. Sasscer, Zimmer, Wilson, and Harrar.

Yours very truly,

J. G. Sanders

Agent and Expert.

Dr. L. O. Howard

Chief, Bureau of Entomology.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Plant Industry

Office of  
Assistant Chief  
Of Bureau

Washington, January 13, 1910

Dr. L. O. Howard,  
Chief, Bureau of Entomology.

My dear Dr. Howard:

Dr. N. A. Cobb has submitted to me a progress report of an examination of certain cherry trees received in Washington, sent, it is understood, by the Mayor of Tokyo, Japan. His examination concerns itself solely with nematode infestation. The following is from his report:

"Thirty-two lots have so far been examined, consisting of 294 trees. The preliminary inspection was carried out as follows: the roots of each tree were inspected very briefly, the inspection in no case lasting more than a few seconds, and the trees thus selected as diseased must necessarily, in nearly every case, be badly infested. The following are the results of this inspection:

"Percentage of Infestation with *Heterodera Radicicola*,  
Commonly known as Root Gall.

1. Of the 32 lots inspected 72% are infested.
2. Of the total number of trees examined (294) 26% are infested.

"Much experience in this sort of inspection enables me to add that in all probability the vast majority of these trees are infested with root gall.

"An examination of the soil removed from the roots of these trees reveals the presence of large numbers of various species of nematodes. The examination and identification of these will require some time. Among them are a number of very injurious species.

"I have no hesitation in saying that in a country where a proper inspection of diseased material is legally in force with the object of protecting agriculture, the importation of these trees can not be permitted. Root gall is a very serious disease which attacks scores of species of cultivated and wild plants. This disease already exists to some extent in the District of Columbia and in many regions to the southward, and occurs in greenhouses in the northern part of the country. Very large sums of money are annually lost through its ravages, and much money has been spent in fighting it."

Very truly yours,

A. F. Woods,

Physiologist and Pathologist,  
and Acting Chief of Bureau.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Plant Industry

Washington, January 19, 1910

Pathological  
collections  
Mycological exchange.  
Inspection work.

Mr. David Fairchild,

Agricultural Explorer,

In charge of Seed and Plant Introduction.

Dear Mr. Fairchild:

The inspection of the large consignment of Japanese cherry trees presented by the Japanese Government has been completed.

Crown gall is present on 45% of the trees and the girdling of five trees apparently has resulted from the attack of a *Pestalozzia* sp. Crown gall is already widely distributed in this country and its importation in this case may not be of any considerable economic importance. It is impossible to decide with the limited time available for research if the *Pestalozzia* is of an indigenous species.

Fungous mycelium was pretty generally present on the roots—it appeared to be due to conditions of packing rather than a true root disease. Cultural experiments were started to substantiate this belief.

Yours very truly,

FLORA PATTERSON

Mycologist in Charge.

O.K.,

A=A.V.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Entomology  
Washington, D.C.

January 19, 1910

The Honorable,

The Secretary of Agriculture.

Sir:

A week has been spent in inspecting the 2,000 flowering cherry trees (three carloads) recently received from Japan. On account of the size of the trees this inspection occupied a good deal of time. For this Bureau it has been conducted by three or four experts working whenever the weather conditions permitted, and has been supervised and checked by both Doctor Howard and the writer. Doctor Howard left for Florida today just as the final reports were handed in, and has therefore asked me to transmit the several reports of this inspection to you. The documents include, 1st, the report of the inspection by this Bureau as to infestation by injurious insect pests; 2nd, the report of the inspection by Dr. N. A. Cobb, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, for root gall worm in the roots of the trees and in the accompanying soil, submitted by Dr. A. F. Woods; and 3rd, the report of Mrs. Patterson, Mycologist, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, on the subject of plant diseases.

These reports may be briefly summarized as follows:

Insect pests—Practically all of the trees are more or less seriously infested with an important scale insect pest, the Chinese Diaspis (Diaspis pentagona). A limited number of the trees are also infested with the San Jose scale (Aspidiotus perniciosus). Both of these scale pests are now in the United States, the former as yet, however, not generally spread.

The most dangerous insect pest is a wood-boring Lepidopterous larva having habits very similar to the peach borer of this country. This undetermined species is apparently much more dangerous than the common peach borer, since it attacks the trees not only near the surface of the ground but frequently at the base of the upper branches. Twenty per cent of the trees are visibly infested with this insect, but it is impossible to tell how many of the others are also infested, since discovery is only possible in the later stages when the insect has burrowed to the surface. The larvae of this insect are so deeply imbedded in the wood and so thoroughly protected by the gummy exudation of the wounded bark that no feasible fumigation would kill them. They undoubtedly constitute the greatest insect menace of this importation, and might very easily be a source of tremendous loss in later years to fruit interests. Representatives of six other dangerous insects were found superficially on these trees.

The presence of the borer referred to, together with the six other insects, without other consideration warrants the recommendation which



Doctor Howard makes and in which I concur, that the entire shipment should be destroyed by burning as soon as possible.

Root gall worm: Doctor Cobb's inspection indicates that about 72% of the different lots of trees are infested with root gall worm. He reports that in all probability the vast majority of the trees are infested with gall worm, and that the soil attached to the roots contains large numbers of various species of nematodes, among which are a number of very injurious species. He concludes:

"I have no hesitation in saying that in a country where a proper inspection of disease material was legally in force with the object of protecting agriculture, the importation of these trees would not be permitted. Root gall is a very serious disease which attacks scores of species of cultivated and wild plants. This disease already exists to some extent in the District of Columbia and many regions to the southward, and occurs in greenhouses in the northern part of the country. Very large sums of money are annually lost through its ravages, and much money has been spent in fighting it."

Plant diseases.—The report of the Mycologist, Mrs. Patterson, is that 45 percent of the trees are infested with crown gall, and a number of trees are attacked by another fungous disease, Pestalozzia sp. Crown gall is already widely distributed in this country, and its importation in this case may not be of any considerable economic importance. It is not possible to determine whether the Pestalozzia is an indigenous species.

The difficulty is largely due to the fact that very old stock has been sent, the object being to give large, showy trees. Young stock would undoubtedly be in a much more healthy condition, and the importation of it would have been accompanied with much less risk. The recommendation for the destruction of these trees is thoroughly merited. Their very bad condition from the standpoint of disease and insect infestation, and the very heavy root pruning to which they have been subjected, makes it very doubtful on the statement of the Horticulturist in charge, that many of them will live, even if planted. This may lessen the feeling of regret at the necessity, which seems imperative, for the destruction of the entire shipment.

Respectfully,

C. L. MARLATT,

Acting Chief of Bureau

## A Glossary of Terms Used in Letters by USDA Scientists in Referring to the Pests and Diseases Found on the Cherry Trees Sent From Japan in 1909

*Anisolabis annulipes*: An earwig.

*Aspidiotus perniciosus*: See *Quadraspidiotus perniciosus*.

Bagworms: The larva of several moths (Family *Psychidae*) that in the larval stage develops bags made of silk, bits of leaves and twigs, for protection.

Black Thrips: Any of several very small, fringed-wing insects of the order (*Thysanoptera*) that feed on plant juices.

Borer: Insects that in the larval or adult stages bore into the bark or woody parts of plants.

Canker-worm: Any moth of the family (*Geometridae*) that in the larval stage moves by arching the center of the body. Since the canker-worm feeds on fruit and foliage, it is especially harmful to orchard trees.

Chinese Diapsis: See *Pseudaulacaspis pentagona*.

Chrysalis: The pupa of a butterfly; intermediate form of the insects between the larval and adult stages.

*Cnidocampa flavescens*: A Cochleiid, see below.

Cochleiid: A term used for *Cochlidiade*, a family of attractively colored moths that in the larval stage is sluglike and sometimes has venomous spines.

*Cremastogaster* sp.: See *Crematogaster* sp.

*Crematogaster* sp.: A shiny black species of small ants that walk with the pointed abdomen turned up over the body.

Crown Gall: A bacterial disease causing tumorlike growths to form at the crowns or on the roots or branches of various woody and herbaceous plants.

*Diapsis pentagona*: No longer a valid name for the scale insect commonly called Chinese Diapsis. See *Pseudaulacaspis pentagona*.

Forficulid: A name for the typical genus of the earwig family (*Forficulidae*).

*Heterodera radiciola*: A nematode or eelworm known to be in Europe and England for over 100 years. Although included in the report on pests found in the shipment of cherry trees in 1909, nematodes were already in the United States when these trees arrived from Japan. It is not clear today which nematode was identified as *Heterodera radiciola* in 1909.

Insect Diseases: This phrase should read insect pests.

Lepidopterous Moth: The name applied to a brightly colored moth that has membranous wings covered with very fine scales. In the larval stage it is harmful to plants.

Nematodes: Minute eelworms, some of which cause destructive plant diseases.

*Paleacrita vernata*: One of the canker-worms found in the United States and Canada prior to 1909. See Canker-worm.

*Pestalozzia* sp.: An unidentified fungus of the genus *Pestalotia* (syn. *Pestalozzia*) that, under moist conditions, lives as a secondary invader or as a weak parasite on dead plant material or on plants that are growing under conditions of stress.

Pierid: A common name for *Pieridae*, a large family usually of white or yellow, medium-sized butterflies that in the larval stage feeds on many types of plants.

*Pseudaulacaspis pentagona*: A white scale insect, formerly called *Diaspis pentagona*, that is widely found in the tropics and warmer temperate zones. This pest is not known to be in North America at present and, therefore, perhaps it never spread from the cherry trees sent from Japan in 1909.

*Quadraspidiotus perniciosus*: A scale insect very destructive to orchard fruit trees that probably entered the United States from China through San Jose, California, in 1870. This pest was known scientifically as *Aspidiotus perniciosus* in 1909.

Root Gall: A growthlike swelling resulting from the stimulation of tissue by insects, fungi, bacteria, or nematodes.

San Jose Scale: See *Quadraspidiotus perniciosus*.

*Sanninoidea exitiosa*: A clearwinged moth that in the larval stage often damages peach trees by boring into the wood just above the ground.

Scale Insect: Any insect of the family *Coccidae* producing a secretion that forms a scalelike covering of waxy or powdery substance over the body. Several are pests of orchards and garden plants.

Sesiid Moth: A common name for the clearwinged moth of the family *Aegeriidae* (syn. *Sesiidae*).

Shiny Black Ants: See *Crematogaster* sp.

Weevil: These insects, as both larvae and adults, are often injurious to fruit trees and other plants. A group of hard-bodied insects having heads with long beaks that turn downwards.



## Descriptive List of the Second Shipment of Cherry Trees<sup>3</sup>

(Of the 12 selections listed below, only Somei-Yoshino and Kwanzan are extant in Potomac Park.)

*Ariake (Dawn)*: Habit; open tree up to 18 ft. with occasional upright spreading, stout branches arising from the trunk near ground. Leaves; young foliage is bronze-green, and at maturity is usually larger and more coarsely serrated than other cherry selections. Flowers; single or with some extra petals, pendulous, in clusters of 2 to 4; in bud slightly pinkish white, expanding to white with almost flat surfaces up to 5.5 cm. across. According to Russell,<sup>4</sup> *Ariake* was perhaps introduced into the United States with the 1912 Potomac Park Japanese cherry trees.

*Fugenzo (derivative of Buddah)*: Habit; a dense tree up to 20 ft. high and 20 ft. wide with horizontal crossing branches. Leaves; copper-bronze when young turning green when fully developed. Flowers; double (about 30 petals), deep pink, opening late in the season.

This is one of the oldest cultivated Japanese cherry trees in Japan. It is pictured in Japanese paintings that are more than 500 years old.

*Fukurokuju (good fortune and wealth)*: Habit; upright spreading, well-shaped tree. Flowers; double in stiff clusters approximately 5 cm. across, pale pink and free flowering.

*Gyoiko (ancient name for the Japanese Emperors' yellowish-green costume)*: Habit; upright spreading tree to 20 ft. becoming wider with age. Leaves; copper colored when opening becoming green at maturity, unevenly serrated. Flowers; double 10 to 15 petals approximately 4 cm. across, yellowish-green with darker green stripes, becoming flushed with pink as they age.

*Ichiyo (single leaf)*: Habit; upright spreading tree up to 25 ft. high and 25 ft. wide. Leaves; pale bronze when unfolding becoming green as they expand. Flowers; double, pale pink, approximately 5 cm. across, in clusters of 3 or 4.

*Jo-noi*: Habit; upright spreading tree with broad crown 25 ft. tall and 25 ft. wide. Leaves; slightly bronze at first turning green as they expand, appearing after the blossoms open. Flowers; pure white single or semi-double, in clusters of 2 to 4, very fragrant, approximately 4 cm. across. This is a very free-flowering Oriental cherry that is perhaps the most fragrant of all.

*Kwanzan (known also as Kanzan and Seki-yama)*: Habit; tree to 30 ft.; upright spreading, wide vase shape with stiff ascending branches. Leaves; large coppery pink with dark red petioles, becoming dark green with age. Margin; simple serrated or nearly so. Flowers; buds rose red and

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<sup>3</sup>All the trees in this shipment are cultivars of *Prunus serrulata* Lindl. except Somei-yoshino which is a selection of *Prunus x yedoensis* Matsum.

<sup>4</sup>Paul Russell, "Japanese Flowering Cherries," U.S. Department of Agriculture Circular No. 313. Washington, D.C., March 1934.

truncate; open clear pink, slightly fading with age with about 30 petals, 3 to 5 in tight clusters.

This selection is considered by many flower lovers to be the finest of all the double pink Japanese cherries. It is named after a mountain in Japan. In 1930 Russell reported 240 trees in Potomac Park, mostly around Hains Point.

*Mikuruma-gaeshi (The Royal Carriage Returns)*: Habit; a stiffly upright tree up to 25 ft. high and approximately 15 ft. wide with long ascending branches. Leaves; brownish-green while unfolding becoming greener as they expand. Flowers; pink in bud fading to almost white at maturity with pink margins on each petal, approximately 5.5 cm. across from 2 to 5 in a cluster.

This tree once so impressed a former Japanese Emperor as he rode by it in his carriage that he had the driver return to it so that he could get a second look. Thus, this tree has been given the Japanese name *Mikuruma-gaeshi*, which when translated means, "The Royal Carriage Returns."

*Shirayuii (Snow White)*: Habit; an open upright spreading tree to 20 ft. with dark brownish-gray branches. Leaves; pale brown while young becoming green with maturity. Flowers; single or at times with 1 or 2 extra petals; pinkish in bud and fading later to pure white up to 3 cm. across in clusters of 2 to 4 with short stiff stalks.

According to Russell,<sup>5</sup> this is a very free blooming selection that can easily be distinguished from other white Japanese cherries by its hairy flower stalks (pedicels).

*Somei-yoshino*: Habit; a round-topped, wide spreading tree that reaches 30 to 50 ft. at maturity. Leaves; bright green while unfolding, turning darker with age. Flowers; pale pink when opening later turning almost white. Often becoming pinkish at base before falling, in clusters of 2 to 5. This hybrid cherry is of unknown Japanese origin. It was first discovered in Tokyo about 1872 after it had been planted around the Imperial Museum now called the National Museum at Ueno. Upon observing that this cherry was different, Japanese botanists at the time called it *Somei-Yoshino*. It is now perhaps one of the most popular flowering cherry tree selections in Japan as well as in the United States.

*Surugadai-nioi*: Habit; tree 20 ft. high by 20 ft. wide with spreading branches. Leaves; bronze-green while becoming green with age. Flowers; single, fragrant white with narrow wide-spaced petals that generally do not touch.

The Japanese name *Surugadai* denotes a place in Yedo where visitors stand to view Fujiyama.

*Takinioi (Fragrant Cascade)*: Habit; a small tree approximately 15 ft. high by 15 ft. wide with many branches and a rounded, flattened crown. Leaves; bronze-green when unfolding maintaining color as they expand.

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<sup>5</sup>Russell, "Japanese Flowering Cherries."

Flowers; fragrant, single, slightly pinkish in bud becoming pure white when opened, approximately 3-5 cm. across. One of the last whites to bloom.

## Approximate Dates on Which Oriental Cherry Trees Were in Full Bloom, 1921-76

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Single-flowering trees</i> | <i>Double-flowering trees</i> |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1921.....   | March 20                      | April 17                      |
| 1922.....   | April 7                       | April 20                      |
| 1923.....   | April 9                       | April 22                      |
| 1924.....   | April 13                      | April 26                      |
| 1925.....   | March 27                      | April 15                      |
| 1926.....   | April 11                      | April 24                      |
| 1927.....   | March 20                      | April 20                      |
| 1928.....   | April 8                       | April 26                      |
| 1929.....   | March 31                      | April 14                      |
| 1930.....   | April 1                       | April 22                      |
| 1931.....   | April 11                      | April 20                      |
| 1932.....   | April 15                      | April 29                      |
| 1933.....   | April 9                       | April 23                      |
| 1934.....   | April 15                      | May 1                         |
| 1935.....   | April 1                       | April 26                      |
| 1936.....   | April 7                       | April 21                      |
| 1937.....   | April 14                      | April 26                      |
| 1938.....   | March 25                      | April 15                      |
| 1939.....   | March 30                      | April 14                      |
| 1940.....   | April 13                      | April 26                      |
| 1941.....   | April 12                      | April 25                      |
| 1942.....   | April 5                       | April 16                      |
| 1943.....   | April 4                       | April 17                      |
| 1944.....   | April 9                       | April 26                      |
| 1945.....   | March 20                      | March 28                      |
| 1946.....   | March 23                      | April 2                       |
| 1947.....   | April 12                      | April 27                      |
| 1948.....   | March 28                      | April 10                      |
| 1949.....   | March 29                      | April 16                      |
| 1950.....   | April 9                       | April 29                      |
| 1951.....   | April 6                       | April 25                      |
| 1952.....   | April 9                       | April 21                      |
| 1953.....   | March 27                      | April 14                      |
| 1954.....   | April 6                       | April 19                      |
| 1955.....   | April 2                       | April 19                      |
| 1956.....   | April 6                       | April 28                      |



| <i>Year</i> | <i>Single-flowering trees</i> | <i>Double-flowering trees</i> |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1957.....   | April 8                       | April 23                      |
| 1958.....   | April 18                      | April 26                      |
| 1959.....   | April 8                       | April 20                      |
| 1960.....   | April 11                      | April 23                      |
| 1961.....   | April 5                       | April 19                      |
| 1962.....   | April 14                      | April 25                      |
| 1963.....   | April 1                       | April 17                      |
| 1964.....   | April 8                       | April 21                      |
| 1965.....   | April 13                      | April 22                      |
| 1966.....   | April 4                       | April 20                      |
| 1967.....   | April 3                       | April 25                      |
| 1968.....   | April 2                       | April 16                      |
| 1969.....   | April 9                       | April 17                      |
| 1970.....   | April 13                      | April 27                      |
| 1971.....   | April 8                       | April 23                      |
| 1972.....   | April 10                      | April 19                      |
| 1973.....   | March 29                      | April 18                      |
| 1974.....   | April 4                       | April 19                      |
| 1975.....   | April 4                       | April 17                      |
| 1976.....   | March 26                      | April 13                      |

## Significant Botanical and Horticultural Institutions Where Japanese Flowering Cherry Trees Are Grown

Arnold Arboretum of  
Harvard University  
Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Connecticut Arboretum  
New London, Conn.

The Botanic Garden of  
Smith College  
Northampton, Mass.

The Dawes Arboretum  
Newark, Ohio

Heritage Plantation and Garden  
Sandwich, Mass.

Brooklyn Botanic Garden  
and Arboretum  
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Hidden Lake Gardens  
Tipton, Mich.

Brookside Botanical Gardens  
Silver Spring, Md.

Highland and Durand-Eastman Parks  
Rochester, N.Y.

Callaway Gardens  
Pine Mountain, Ga.

Huntington Botanical Gardens  
Henry E. Huntington Library  
and Art Gallery  
San Marino, Calif.

Kinn River Canyon Arboretum  
River Falls, Wis.

Longwood Gardens  
Kennett Square, Pa.

Los Angeles State and County  
Arboretum  
Arcadia, Calif.

The Morris Arboretum  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Morton Arboretum  
Lisle, Ill.

The New York Botanical Garden  
New York, N.Y.

Norfolk Botanical Garden  
Norfolk, Va.

Oregon State University  
Corvallis, Oreg.

Seacrest Arboretum  
Wooster, Ohio

Strybing Arboretum  
San Francisco, Calif.

Swarthmore College  
Swarthmore, Pa.

United States National Arboretum  
Washington, D.C.

University Farm  
University of California  
Davis, Calif.

University of Minnesota  
Landscape Arboretum  
Chaska, Minn.

University of Washington  
Arboretum  
Seattle, Wash.

Winterthur Gardens  
Winterthur, Del.

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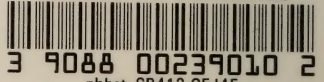








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The Japanese flowering cherry trees of W